

The War Fifty Years Ago

Confederates Take Bold Initiative In North Carolina. Attempt to Recover Newbern From Federal Occupation—General Pickett, of Gettysburg Fame, Heads the Enterprise—Bold "Cutting Out" Expedition. Federal Gunboat Boarded at Night, Captured and Set on Fire—Fierce Hand to Hand Struggles on Deck—Federal Ship Commander Slain—Repulse of Pickett at the Forts Defeats His Campaign.

By Capt. GEORGE L. KILMER, Late U. S. V.
THE middle of January fifty years ago found the Confederate army of General James Longstreet still encamped along the Virginia and Tennessee railroad in east Tennessee. After his vain attempt to capture Knoxville in November Longstreet had marched slowly to the northeast to await events. He was in a position to menace Knoxville. Late in December Federal raiders had destroyed army supplies in southwest Virginia which might have served Longstreet's troops for a campaign. They had also destroyed miles of track and several bridges and culverts. Owing to the lateness of



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GENERAL FRANK C. ARMSTRONG, U. S. A., CAVALRY COMMANDER IN GENERAL LONGSTREET'S COLUMN.

The season, this isolated Longstreet's command from the source of supplies and reinforcements in Virginia.

Believing that Longstreet could be driven to a safe distance from Knoxville and perhaps across the Virginia border, the Federal commander in east Tennessee, General J. G. Foster, decided to march his entire force against him. The Confederates were thirty to forty miles northeast of Knoxville and ten to twelve miles north of the French Broad river.

Federal Advance and Retreat.

On the 15th of January three Federal corps, preceded by cavalry, advanced across the Holston at Strawberry Plains into the angle between that river and the French Broad, intending to cross the latter southward on a floating bridge. Longstreet's cavalry under General Martin detected the move of the enemy, and Longstreet chose to fight rather than turn his men out of their snug bivouacs and retreat, as he must do if the Federals gained his flank south of the river. With two divisions he marched to give battle at Dandridge, but the Federals promptly retreated and took up winter quarters at Knoxville.

A general thaw set in, making the roads almost impassable for heavy movements. Meanwhile the Federal cavalry corps under General S. D. Sturgis, three divisions strong, had marched from Knoxville across the Holston up the south side of the French Broad, living off the country and sparing only what was necessary to support the inhabitants who were friendly to the northern flag. Getting news of this new danger on his southern flank, Longstreet sent General W. T. Martin's cavalry across the French Broad on Jan. 24 and ordered General F. C. Armstrong's division to follow and get in the rear of the Federals. Sturgis decided to fight the newcomers.

General Martin first fell upon the isolated brigade of Colonel A. P. Campbell, of General Edward McCook's division, with General J. T. Morgan's command. Sturgis hoped to destroy Morgan before Armstrong's men reached the field and, leaving strong guards to hold the road against Armstrong, threw his whole command, consisting of McCook's, Colonel Frank Wolford's and Colonel Kerner Garrard's divisions, into the fray near Fair Garden. Campbell's brigade was roughly handled, but Colonel O. H. La Grange's brigade galloped to the scene and beat the Confederate troops back until it reached an open field, which was raked by the enemy's battery.

Charge on a Battery.

Halt! his line under shelter. La Grange formed for a grand rush. A column of dismounted men advanced to within 150 yards of the battery, and the Fourth Indiana cavalry charged forward. Seeing the danger, the bat-

tery limbered up and moved back through the life of mounted supports, which opened right and left to make way for the guns. The Confederate supports outnumbered the Indians, but the Federals were bent upon capturing the guns. Two companies dashed on after the fleeing battery, and Major J. P. Leslie wheeled four companies against the supports, who made a stand around Morgan's battleflag. This band was routed and the flag captured, with many of its defenders. The gallant Leslie, however, was killed in the charge by a bullet in the breast. Such was the enthusiasm with which Leslie's onset was made that General McCook and all his staff caught the spirit and joined in the rush.

Meanwhile the two companies overtook the battery, snatched the drivers and stopped the running teams. Seeing the small force of Federals with the guns, a battalion of Confederates turned and advanced to recapture them, but the four companies of Indians which had fought with Major Leslie swept down and drove the would-be rescuers from the field. In this brisk fight at Fair Garden the artillery divided honors with the wielders of the saber. When the Fourth Indiana formed for its charge upon Morgan's battery, Captain Lilly of the Eighteenth Indiana brought his pieces within 500 yards of the hostile guns and opened furiously. One gun moved forward with the charging party which captured the battery.

Campbell's brigade having formed its ranks after the first setback moved forward on the right of La Grange to support his gallant attack along the main road. This line was held up also by the enemy's battery. Campbell asked Lieutenant Miller of the Indiana battery whether he could get a gun to bear upon the enemy. "Yes, before the enemy can load," was the prompt response. This gun went forward as the troops advanced after the fleeing enemy and made some crack shots at the moving target. One shot killed a Confederate driver, a mule and three horses. A second shot took off a gun wheel and cut in two a sponge staff in the hands of a Confederate cannonner. A third went through a caisson.

Longstreet Leads Up Reserves.

It was dark when McCook's victorious troops cleaned up the battlefield at Fair Garden. Having two fresh regiments at hand, McCook sent them after Morgan's fleeing horsemen and prepared to drive them into the river next day. Meanwhile Armstrong's



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GENERAL EDWARD M'COOK, U. S. A., LEADER OF FEDERAL CAVALRY DIVISION IN EAST TENNESSEE.

Confederates had crossed and taken a strong position in rear of Sturgis. Longstreet, supposing that Foster had marched his infantry at the heels of Sturgis' cavalry up the river, according to the program brought in by Confederate scouts, also crossed the French Broad, taking along Bushrod Johnson's division of infantry. The Confederate leader rode boldly at the head of the column and expected to find the Federals in battle with Armstrong.

Sturgis on his part looked for certain victory over Armstrong, who, he believed, was cut off from Morgan and at his mercy. The Federal leader boldly threw Wolford's division and La Grange's brigade into action against Armstrong, but the fighting was hardly begun when the scouts of Garrard's division brought word to Sturgis that

Confederate infantry had been fording the French Broad for an hour. Armstrong's men had built rifle pits to strengthen their position, and Sturgis was in danger of being cut off from his route back to Knoxville.

Sturgis Retreats.

Sturgis could only save himself by retreat and pressed the attack of Wolford's line to cover the withdrawal. Longstreet, with his headquarters flag and staff, rode out to Armstrong's front just as a band of Federal troopers broke through on a desperate charge. One boy in blue galloped into Longstreet's party, bent on capturing the flag. Seeing the reckless Federal running amok, Colonel Fairfax of Longstreet's military family put spurs to his horse and rode at the intruder, pistol in hand. Before the trooper could level his gun the nimble Virginian covered him and called out "Surround!" Astonished at being let off so easily when on murder bent, the Federal dropped his carbine and went to the rear as a Confederate trophy from the last dash at Fair Garden.

The retreat of Sturgis left the Confederates in possession of the foraging grounds. There were looms in the country, and sometimes Longstreet's soldiers were given a bolt of cloth by citizens in sympathy with their cause. If the owners of the cloth were not patriotic in that direction the stuff was taken anyway as a necessity of war. Longstreet's men belonged in Virginia and had been long from home on many weary tramps. They were nearly barefooted. It was the boast of the Yankee soldiers that they could do anything in emergencies. For once the Confederates displayed a versatility not looked for among the sons of gentlemen planters. Soldiers in gray tanned the hides from beavers killed for food. They made shoe pegs and shoe lasts and turned out a hundred pairs of shoes a day for the covering of the feet of the most needy.

Naturally the Federals didn't look calmly on while the enemy from Virginia revelled in the fat of the land. In fact, they needed some of the good things themselves, being far away from their supply depots, with rugged mountains intervening. Their horses were dying for lack of forage; the men lived on part rations, which had to be hauled by wagons from Chattanooga.

Confederate Field Strength.

Early in 1864 the Confederate authorities began to give attention to their depleted army. A conscription law was being rigidly enforced, but there were many exemptions. A law was in force prohibiting men liable to military service from sending substitutes, and on Jan. 5 this was strengthened by an enactment that "no person liable to military service should be exempted by reason of his having furnished a substitute." At that date the draft took only able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five.

The number of the Confederate troops in the field known as veterans at the beginning of 1864 was about 225,000 of all arms. These were distributed from the Atlantic coast to Texas. General Robert E. Lee had under his command approximately 100,000 men, including the corps of Longstreet, which was in east Tennessee, and the command of General Sam Jones in southwest Virginia. At Richmond and Petersburg

there were troops acting as garrisons, and forces in North Carolina swelling the total in that state and in Virginia to about 110,000.

Lee's army was the largest in the field and was mainly lumped on the Rapidan river. The army commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston, with headquarters at Dalton, Ga., numbered over 50,000 men. Johnston's command was known as the Army of the Tennessee and was in camps or stations in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. There were 10,000 to 12,000 Confederates in South Carolina and about the same number in Texas.

The cavalry under General N. B. Forrest and his lieutenants in Tennessee and Mississippi aggregated about 8,000, and there were about 8,000 Confederates of all arms at Mobile, Ala.

Those who spent Sunday in Rock Island were Roy Bowman, Ben Somers, Louis Long, Fred Rosenberg, Fred Radloff and Art Thompson.
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Bling visited Sunday at the home of Mrs. Niebling's mother, Mrs. Styvoert in Moline.
Miss Rose Nitz returned home Sunday after a visit with her sister, Mrs. Swenson, of Moline.
Ben Philips of Davenport was a business caller in Coal Valley Saturday.
F. Wylie left Tuesday for a visit in Oklahoma with his sister whom he has not seen for 35 years.
Miss Lizzie Gramtag of Rock Island

visited at the Gramtag home Sunday.
Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Wilson of Moline visited at the Stewart home Saturday.

Miss Lois McCarty of Sherrard visited in Coal Valley Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bailey and Miss Margaret Pryce attended the farmers' institute in Milan Wednesday.

The home talent company gathered Thursday evening to have a social time. A program was carried out by the company. Those who were present besides the company were Mr. and Mrs. R. McGimpsey and son, Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Carlson and family, Ben Somerson, Harvey Woolley, Rudy Krapp, Joseph Bramberg, Clarence Connelly, Harvey Connelly and Marion McGimpsey.

Little Marion Davis is spending this week with her aunts, Mrs. R. Somerson and Mrs. J. Krapp.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Niebling have moved to Oquawka where they will make their home.

Mrs. Jones and son, Robert, visited Mrs. R. Sackville at the Moline hospital Friday.

Mrs. Carlson and son, Lloyd, were in Rock Island shopping last Friday.

John Barako and John McGimpsey were business callers in Rock Island Wednesday.

S. Stewart was a business caller in Rock Island Tuesday.

Lillian Blaser of Black Hawk visited her grandparents here this week.

James Wynes of South Rock Island visited old friends here Saturday.

Mrs. M. Carlson is spending this week in Moline with her daughter, Mrs. D. Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. R. Metzler, Miss C. McNeekin, Mrs. J. Carlson and daughter, Lila, Mrs. Josie Murphy and Mrs. Nitz attended the farmers' institute in Milan Thursday.

Mrs. M. Connelly and children are spending a few days in Moline with relatives.

Mrs. S. Scmerson is sick.

Dr. Myers visited his patients in the Da export hospital Thursday.

HAD FURNISHED ROOMS.

And He Had a Sign Out to Let the Neighbors Know.

In a little settlement on the outskirts of Chicago two houses stand out more boldly than the rest. These two are the domiciles of two Italians of means, who, although being very ignorant men, vie with each other for the social leadership of the locality.

One day a newcomer, in search of temporary lodgings, attracted by a conspicuous sign in the window of the first of these two houses, stepped to the door to make inquiry.

"I see you have furnished rooms here," he said to the swarthy man who answered his knock.

"Ya," rejoined the foreigner, pointing to the furnished room sign, "dere's da sign."

"Well, if you have one that's suitable I'd like to rent it for a while."

"We no rent da rooms," was the bewildering declaration. "I got my family in here, and dey take up all da house."

"Don't rent any rooms? Why, then, have you that sign stuck in the window?"

"I'll tell you. Las' week dat fellow next door hung such a sign in his front window, an' we'n I see dat I put one of da same kind in my front window, just to show da people dat he ain't only man in dis place dat have his rooms furnished!"—Judge's Library.

For the First Corner.

Young Man—So Miss Ethel is your oldest sister. Who comes after her?
Small Brother—Nobody ain't come yet, but pa says the first fellow that comes can have her.—Boston Transcript.

TODAY'S MARKET QUOTATIONS

Local and Foreign

Chicago and New York markets furnished by E. W. Wagner & Co., members Chicago Board of Trade, grain, provisions, stocks and cotton; private wires to all financial centers. Correspondents on the New York Stock and Cotton Exchanges. Tri-city office at suite 309 Best building. Phone Rock Island 330.

P. J. McCORMICK, Manager.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

| Wheat— | Open. | High. | Low. | Close |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| May | 83 1/2 | 84 1/2 | 83 1/2 | 83 1/2 |
| July | 83 1/2 | 84 1/2 | 83 1/2 | 83 1/2 |
| Corn— | | | | |
| May | 66 1/2 | 66 1/2 | 66 | 66 1/2 |
| July | 65 1/2 | 65 1/2 | 65 1/2 | 65 1/2 |
| Sept. | 64 1/2 | 64 1/2 | 64 1/2 | 64 1/2 |
| Oats— | | | | |
| May | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 |
| July | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 | 39 1/2 |
| Pork— | | | | |
| May | 21.82 | 21.82 | 21.70 | 21.77 |
| Lard— | | | | |
| May | 11.07 | 11.07 | 11.0 | 11.05 |
| July | 11.25 | 11.25 | 11.22 | 11.25 |
| Ribs— | | | | |
| May | 11.65 | 11.65 | 11.60 | 11.65 |
| July | 11.80 | 11.80 | 11.75 | 11.80 |

Chicago Cash Grain.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|-----------|--------|
| Wheat—No. 2 r. | 96 1/2 | No. 3 r. | 94 1/2 |
| No. 2 h. | 92 1/2 | No. 3 h. | 90 1/2 |
| No. 1 s. | 92 1/2 | No. 2 s. | 90 1/2 |
| No. 3 s. | 88 1/2 | No. 4 s. | 86 1/2 |
| No. 5 s. | 84 1/2 | No. 6 s. | 82 1/2 |
| No. 7 s. | 80 1/2 | No. 8 s. | 78 1/2 |
| No. 9 s. | 76 1/2 | No. 10 s. | 74 1/2 |
| No. 11 s. | 72 1/2 | No. 12 s. | 70 1/2 |
| No. 13 s. | 68 1/2 | No. 14 s. | 66 1/2 |
| No. 15 s. | 64 1/2 | No. 16 s. | 62 1/2 |
| No. 17 s. | 58 1/2 | No. 18 s. | 56 1/2 |
| No. 19 s. | 54 1/2 | No. 20 s. | 52 1/2 |
| No. 21 s. | 48 1/2 | No. 22 s. | 46 1/2 |
| No. 23 s. | 44 1/2 | No. 24 s. | 42 1/2 |
| No. 25 s. | 38 1/2 | No. 26 s. | 36 1/2 |
| No. 27 s. | 34 1/2 | No. 28 s. | 32 1/2 |
| No. 29 s. | 30 1/2 | No. 30 s. | 28 1/2 |
| No. 31 s. | 26 1/2 | No. 32 s. | 24 1/2 |
| No. 33 s. | 22 1/2 | No. 34 s. | 20 1/2 |
| No. 35 s. | 18 1/2 | No. 36 s. | 16 1/2 |
| No. 37 s. | 14 1/2 | No. 38 s. | 12 1/2 |
| No. 39 s. | 10 1/2 | No. 40 s. | 8 1/2 |
| No. 41 s. | 6 1/2 | No. 42 s. | 4 1/2 |
| No. 43 s. | 2 1/2 | No. 44 s. | 0 1/2 |

Liverpool Cables.

Wheat—Closed 1/4 to 1/2 higher.
Corn—Closed unchanged to 1/4 higher.

Chicago Receipts.

| Wheat | Today. | Contract. |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|
| Wheat | 75 | 62 |
| Corn | 187 | 2 |
| Oats | 67 | 13 |
| Northwest Cars. | To-Last | Last |
| Minneapolis | 192 | 233 |
| Duluth | 3 | 20 |
| Winnipeg | 75 | 65 |

Estimates Tomorrow.

| | |
|-------|-----|
| Wheat | 114 |
| Corn | 248 |
| Oats | 80 |

Primary Movement.

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Wheat today | 679,000 | 299,000 |
| Year ago | 812,000 | 432,000 |
| Corn today | 841,000 | 594,000 |
| Year ago | 1,252,000 | 1,132,000 |

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

Opening of Market.
Hogs 18,000. Left over 2,487.
Steady yesterday's average. Mixed, \$8.40@8.70; good, \$8.60@8.70; rough, \$8.40@8.55; light, \$8.35@8.63.
Cattle 2,000. Steady.
Sheep 1,000. Steady.

Nine O'clock Market.
Hogs shade lower than yesterday's average. Estimated hogs 4,500. Cattle 21,000. Sheep 30,000. Next week 180,000. Mixed, \$8.40@8.70; good, \$8.60@8.70; rough, \$8.35@8.55; light, \$8.35@8.60; pigs, \$6.30@8.00; bulk, \$8.50@8.65.

Cattle steady. Beaves, \$6.75@9.40; cows, \$3.70@8.25; stockers, \$6.00@

7.90; Texans, \$6.50@8.00; calves, \$8.95@10.25.

Sheep steady, \$2.50@5.90.
Lamb, \$5.85@8.00.

Close of Market.

Hogs steady to shade lower than yesterday's average. Mixed, \$8.40@8.70; good, \$8.50@8.70; rough, \$8.35@8.55; light, \$8.35@8.60.
Cattle steady.
Sheep steady.

Southwest Receipts.

| Hogs. | Cattle. | Sheep. |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| Kansas City | 5,000 | 2,000 |
| Omaha | 3,500 | 100 |

NEW YORK STOCKS.

New York, Feb. 7.—Following are the closing quotations on the stock market today:

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Union Pacific | 162 |
| U. S. Steel common | 65 1/2 |
| Reading | 167 1/2 |
| Rock Island preferred | 12 1/2 |
| Rock Island common | 7 1/2 |
| Southern Pacific | 87 1/2 |
| New York Central | 90 1/2 |
| Missouri Pacific | 27 |
| Great Northern | 132 1/2 |
| Northern Pacific | 116 |
| Louisville & Nashville | 137 1/2 |
| Smelters | 68 1/2 |
| Colorado Fuel & Iron | 33 1/2 |
| Canadian Pacific | 216 1/2 |
| Pennsylvania | 112 1/2 |
| Erie | 30 1/2 |
| Chesapeake & Ohio | 65 1/2 |
| Brooklyn Rapid Transit | 91 1/2 |
| Baltimore & Ohio | 93 1/2 |
| Atchafalpa | 98 1/2 |
| American Locomotive | 34 1/2 |
| St. Paul | 105 1/2 |
| Copper | 75 1/2 |
| Lehigh Valley | 152 1/2 |
| Republic Steel common | 25 1/2 |

Bank Statement.

New York, Feb. 7.—Clearing house members average:

Loans, increase \$20,670,000; specie, decrease \$1,609,000; legal, decrease deposits, increase \$9,673,000; reserve, decrease \$5,021,250.
Actual: Loans, increase \$7,065,000; specie, decrease \$1,700,000; legal, decrease \$1,888,000; deposits, decrease \$17,292,000; reserve, increase \$215,000.

Market Square Sales.

Feb. 6, 1914.

One load of oats at 42c
Two loads of mixed hay at 41c

LOCAL MARKET CONDITIONS.

Feb. 7.—Following are the whole sale quotations on the local market today:

Butter, Eggs and Cheese.
Eggs fresh doz. (very scarce) 30c
Eggs, storage, doz. 26c
Butter, dairy pound 27c
Butter, creamery, pound 31c
Butter, packing stock, pound 22c

Vegetables.

Parsley, bunch 3c
Cucumbers, hot house 15c@20c
Lettuce, pound 25c
Potatoes, bushel 35c
Cabbage, pound 3c
Red onions, per cwt 27 1/2c
Bermuda onions, pound 4c
Turnips 75c
Parsnips 60c
Carrots 60c

Poultry.

Old cocks 8c
Hens 13c
Spring 14c

Ducks, spring 15c

Turkeys 15c

Fish.

Silver Salmon 15c
Perch 10c
Haddock, fresh 10c
Yellow Pike 10c
Pickering 10c
Catfish 10c
Bullheads 10c
Trout 10c
Flounders 10c

WAGNER'S REVIEW

Wheat Arrives at Damage Period.

Chicago, Feb. 7.—Will the aftermath of this peculiar winter be similar to 1890 when after the mid-January freeze years three freezes caught the winter wheat plant right after thaw or rain in each case and opened the soil so that the frost reached the roots.

The three freezes occurred in the 30 days prior to March 15, 1890, and the extensive damage was inflicted until April. Singularly—in January, 1890, there was red rust in Australia, wheat drought in India and a warm mid winter in the United States—an absolute forerunner of the news of February, 1914.

In January, 1890, the snowfall was below an average and wheat attained an abnormal growth. Some damage resulted from freezing below the joint. The peculiar winter also proved the advance guard of a partial potato failure, large damage in the spring wheat states and heavy summer drought damage to corn which declined to a 75 condition.

In 1890—Kansas wheat suffered with hot dry winds in March. As a rule in the central west there was too much moisture in the soil when the frost appeared and roots were quickly exposed. The 1890 total wheat crop of 400,000,000 was one of the smallest of that period and 90,000,000 below 1889.

The May wheat 1890 advance covered 18c. Our present winter wheat crop went into winter quarters with a condition of 97 and a promise of 650,000,000.

Weather is now a principal consideration. Winter conditions will help corn feeding. Foster forecast for February covers a couple of warm and a couple of freezing spells which may affect wheat.